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PTO/SB/66 (06-03)

Approved for use through 05/31/2006. OMB 0651-0016

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(c))**

Docket Number (Optional)

SSI-0002

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Pax: (703) 308-6916

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JAN 23 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (703) 305-9282.

Patent No. 5,976,645 Application Number 09/088,797

Issue Date 11/2/99 Filing Date 6/1/98

CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

Also complete the following information, if applicable

The above-identified patent:

☐ is a reissue of original Patent No. _____, original issue date _____,
original application number _____,
original filing date _____.

☐ resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international
application _____ filed on _____.

Adjustment date: 01/28/2004 AKELLEY
01/23/2004 AWONDAF1 00000027 09088797
01 FC:1599 -2095.00 OP
01/28/2004 AKELLEY 00000030 5976645

01 FC:25:1
02 FC:15:8

455.00 OP CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))
1640.00 OP

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

1/20/04

Date


Signature

01/23/2004 AWONDAF1 00000027 09088797

01 FC:15:9

2095.00 OP

Rebekah L. Mitchell

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

[Page 1 of 3]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

1. SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. **RECEIVED**
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2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

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☐ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g).

3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 1/2 yr fee	(1551)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ <u>455</u>	3 1/2 yr fee	(2551)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 1/2 yr fee	(1552)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 1/2 yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(1553)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 455.00

4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) of \$ 1640.00 (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of the maintenance fee.

SURCHARGE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 1640.00

5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

- ☒ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$ 2095.00.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ the sum of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0462. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.

7. OVERPAYMENT

As to any overpayment made please

- OR ☒ Credit to Deposit Account No. 50-0462
- ☐ Send refund check.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

8. STATEMENT

The delay in payment of the maintenance fee to this patent was unintentional.

9. PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED.

1/20/04

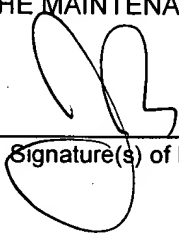
Date

215-599-0600

Telephone Number

32,387

Registration Number, if applicable


Signature(s) of Petitioner(s)John L. Knoble

Typed or printed name(s)

8 Penn Center, Ste. 1350, 1628 JFK Blvd

Address

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Address

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

ENCLOSURES:

- ☒ Maintenance Fee payment
- ☒ Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition)
- ☒ "Fee Address" Indication Form (1 page)